

The Church Dare not Burn Him.

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could be. After the "Satire of the Three Estates" it was no longer feasible to choke reform with the smoke of the martyrs, and, even if the moral sense of the age was very blunt, there were other motives — some noble, some questionable — for beginning and completing the work of Luther in Scotland.

It is astounding that Lyndsay, who fiercely attacked all classes, from the king downwards, escaped hanging. It is inexplicable why the Church did not burn him, except on the assumption that all he said of prelate, priest, and monk was substantially true, and that the knight of the Mount was too conspicuous and influential a person to be haled before an ecclesiastical tribunal. The scandal of such a proceeding was apparently too risky even for Cardinal Beaton. The Church might lay its hands on smaller prey. It really dared not beard Sir David Lyndsay. Buchanan, at this period an obscure scholar, was less fortunate. He wrote some satirical poems against the monks at the instigation of James V., and he had to flee the country to escape the consequences of Beaton's resentment. The brothers Wedderburn, the authors of "The Gude and Godlie Ballates," were also forced to flee for the hardihood of their spiritual songs. Another of these rhyming antagonists of the clergy, Friar Killore, was less fortunate. He was one of a batch of heretics condemned by Beaton and burned in 1539.

SOURCES.—John Major, *In Mattheum Expositio* (1518), *Disputationes on the Three Books of the Sentences of Peter Lombard* (1550), and *A History of Greater Britain*, translated and edited by Archibald Constable, with a Life by A. J. G. Mackay, Scottish History Society (1892); *The New Testament in Scots, being Purvey's Revision of Wicliffe's Version*, by Murdoch Nisbet, c. 1520, edited by T. G. Law, Scottish History Society (1901) ; *The Complaynt of Scotlande* (1549) edited for the Early English Text Society by J. A. H. Murray (1872); *Acts of the Parliament of Scotland*, vol. ii.; *Concilia Scotiae*, Bannatyne Club (1866); *The Poetical Works of Sir David Lyndsay*, edited by David Laing (1879), and *Scottish Text Edition* ; Knox, *History of the Reformation in Scotland*, edited by David Laing, vol. i. (*Works of John Knox*) (1846); Lindesay of Pitscottie, *The History and Cronicles of*